

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CIAE-00
COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04
TRSE-00 FRB-03 OMB-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 SS-15
NSC-05 L-03 H-01 /079 W
-----181738Z 113949 /41

O R 181628Z MAR 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6055
INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 2089

FOR EB/FTD CHARLES ANGEVINE AND COMMERCE ARTHUR DOWNEY AND
RICHARD EHMAN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, RO
SUBJECT: ROMANIA -- TEXTILES

1. FOLLOWING ARE TALKING POINTS UTILIZED TODAY IN RESPONDING
TO MARCH 16 ROMANIA TEXTILE DELEGATION REQUEST THAT ALL US
TEXTILE RESTRAINTS FOR ROMANIA BE SUSPENDED FOR 1977: BEGIN
TEXT.

A. WHEN WE MET WEDNESDAY WE SUGGESTED A COMPREHENSIVE
(THREE-FIBER) AGREEMENT TO REPLACE THE PRESENT SUIT RESTRAINTS
AND THE COTTON AGREEMENT. AS I MENTIONED THEN, WE HAVE
DEVELOPED A PROPOSAL WHICH WE FEEL WILL PROVIDE FLEXIBILITY
TO PERMIT THE ROMANIAN TEXTILE EXPORTS TO THE US TO GROW IN
AN ORDERLY MANNER, ALONG LINES OF ART 4 OF MFA.

B. THE ROMANIAN DELEGATION REPLIED BY ASKING THE
US TO LIFT ALL RESTRAINTS FOR THE REMAINDER OF 1977.
THE ROMANIANS SAID THIS WOULD PROVIDE A GREAT PSYCHOLOGICAL
BENEFIT FOR ROMANIA WITHOUT HAVING ANY DISRUPTIVE
EFFECT ON THE US MARKET. THE ROMANIANDELEGA-

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TION DISCUSSED THE DEVASTATION CREATED BY THE EARTHQUAKE
AND THE DISRUPTION TO THE ROMANIAN TEXTILE EXPORTS WHICH
OCCURRED.

C. THE UNITED STATES HAS CONSIDERED THE ROMANIAN
REQUEST. WE HAVE DEEP SYMPATHY WITH THE TRAGEDY SUFFERED
BY THE ROMANIAN PEOPLE. HOWEVER, WE REGRET THAT WE CAN-
NOT ACQUIESCE TO THIS REQUEST THAT RESTRAINTS BE SUSPENDED.

D. MEASURES WHICH REGULATE TRADE SHOULD NOT BE NEGOTIATED ON THE BASIS OF UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES; SIMILARLY, THEIR APPLICATION SHOULD NOT BE SUSPENDED BECAUSE OF CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH ARE NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE TRADE INVOLVED. THE PURPOSE OF A BILATERAL AGREEMENT IS TO ACHIEVE LONG-TERM NORMAL TRADE CONDITIONS AND TO PERMIT LONG-TERM TRADE WHICH PROVIDES ORDERLY GROWTH IN THE VIEW OF BOTH PARTIES.

E. DISASTER ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE FROM OTHER WELL-DEFINED SOURCES. THE US HAS PROVIDED SOME ASSISTANCE TO ROMANIA ALREADY. ASSISTANCE OF THIS TYPE IS GIVEN BY THE ENTIRE COUNTRY; IT WOULD NOT BE FAIR TO PLACE A SPECIAL BURDEN OF ASSISTANCE ON THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

F. ON THE INTERNATIONAL SIDE, OTHER BILATERAL PARTNERS WOULD HAVE GROUNDS TO OBJECT IF ROMANIA WERE TO BE ABLE TO USE A FORM OF AID AND RELIEF TO AFFECT THEIR NORMAL TRADE PATTERNS AND RELATIONSHIPS. SPECIAL RELIEF TO ROMANIA THROUGH THE TEXTILE PROGRAM WOULD RAISE A NEW TYPE OF EQUITY PROBLEM -- THE PRESSURE TO CONSIDER THE SUSPENSION OF MANY TYPES OF TRADE OR ECONOMIC MEASURES TO PROVIDE RELIEF FOR ANY DISASTER. THIS WOULD LEAD TO THE IMPOSSIBLE QUESTION OF WHEN A DISASTER IS OF USUFFICIENT CALAMITY TO BE WORTHY OF TRADE RELIEF.

G. IF WE ARE TO GIVE RELIEF, WE MUST DIVORCE IT FROM OTHER CONSIDERATION OF THE TYPE WE ARE HERE TO NEGOTIATE. THE SIMPLE ANSWER IS THAT WE CANNOT LIFT RESTRAINTS FOR 1977.

H. AS NOTED, WE HAVE GIVEN A GOOD DEAL OF THOUGHT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO A NEW, COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT WITHIN WHICH THE ROMANIAN TRADE COULD GROW IN ORDERLY FASHION. THE UNITED STATES WOULD LIKE TO START THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATION NOW. IS THE ROMANIAN DELEGATION READY TO NEGOTIATE? IF THE ANSWER IS AFFIRMATIVE, WE ARE READY TO BEGIN AT ONCE. END TEXT.

2. US POSITION WAS PRESENTED TO GOR DEL AT 2:30 P.M. GENEVA TIME. GOR DEL ASKED FOR RECESS UNTIL SATURDAY A.M. IN ORDER TO TELEPHONE BUCHAREST FOR INSTRUCTIONS. GOR DEL REPEATED EARLIER STATEMENT THAT GOR QUOTE HAD EXPECTED UNQUOTE USG RPT USG TO PROPOSE LIFTING OF ALL TEXTILE RESTRAINTS FOR 1977 AS PART OF US RESPONSE TO EARTHQUAKE DISASTER.

3. TALKS RESUME 10:00 A.M. MARCH 19 AT US MISSION GENEVA.SORENSIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXTILES, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, TRADE AGREEMENTS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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Expiration:
Film Number: D770093-0736
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770347/aaaaboa.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROMANIA -- TEXTILES
TAGS: ETRD, RO, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
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